



2173 #6

PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of: Brandt et al. : Date: March 30, 2004
Group Art Unit: 2173 : IBM Corporation
Examiner: Unassigned : Intellectual Property Law
Serial No.: 10/058,360 : Dept. 917, Bldg. 006-1
Filed: January 28, 2002 : 3605 Highway 52 North
Title: METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR : Rochester, MN 55901
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Technology Center 2100

Commissioner for Patents
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March 30, 2004

(Date of Deposit)

Lisa M. Plank

Dear Sir:

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Applicants request that the information listed on the attached Form PTO/SB/08A be considered by the Office during the pendency of the above entitled application, pursuant to 37 C.F.R. 1.97. In accordance with 37 C.F.R. 1.97(h), the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement shall not constitute an admission that any information cited therein is, or is considered to be, material to patentability as defined in 37 C.F.R. 1.56(b). In the interest of full and complete disclosure to the Office, some or all of the art cited herein may not be considered by Applicant(s) or the Undersigned to be

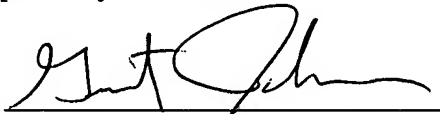
Serial No. 10/058,360
Docket No. ROC919960172US2

material under the new standard of materiality defined in 37 C.F.R. 1.56(b), enacted March 16, 1992, but may be material under the old standard of materiality defined in 37 C.F.R. 1.56(a), last amended on November 28, 1988, or may merely be technical background which may be of interest to the Examiner. In accordance with 37 C.F.R. 1.97(g), the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement shall not be construed to mean that a search has been made.

The references listed herein were cited by a foreign patent office. If any references listed herein are in a language other than English, said foreign search report is submitted in satisfaction of the requirements of 37 C.F.R. 1.98(a)(3). Unless a translation accompanies this Statement, no written English-language translation of any non-English language document, or portion thereof, listed herein, is within the possession custody or control of, or is readily available to any individual designated in 37 C.F.R. 1.56(c).

This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed under 37 C.F.R. 1.97© before a final action or notice of allowance. No filing fee is required because each item of information contained herein was cited for the first time in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of this statement (certification provided below).

Respectfully submitted,

By 

Grant A. Johnson

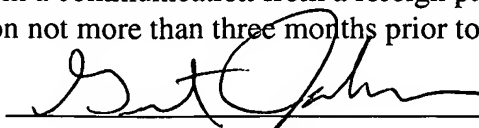
Attorney Reg. No. 42,696

Telephone: 1-507-253-4660

Fax: 1-507-253-2382

CERTIFICATION

I hereby certify that each item of information contained herein was cited for the first time in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of this Statement.

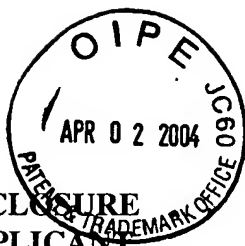


Grant A. Johnson

March 30, 2004

Date

PTO/SB/08A


**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE
STATEMENT BY APPLICANT**

Sheet 1 of 2

Application Number.: 10/058,360
 Filing Date: January 28, 2002
 First Named Inventor: Brandt
 Art Unit: 2173
 Examiner Name: Unknown
 Attorney Docket Number.: ROC919960172US2

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Document Number Number - Kind Code ² (if known)	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns or Lines Where Relevant Passages or Figs. Appear
		US - 5493658	02-20-1996	Chiang et al.	
		US - 5122972	06-16-1992	Richards et al.	
		US -			
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FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initials	Cite No. ¹	Foreign Patent Document Country ³ - Number ⁴ - Kind Code ⁵ Code (if known)	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns or Lines Where Relevant Passages or Figs. Appear	T ⁶
		EP - 0185845 - A2	02-07-1986	Berry et al.		
		EP - 0190419 - A2	08-13-1986	Johnson et al.		
		EP - 0726513 - A2	08-14-1996	Frean		
		WO - 97/35253	09-25-1997	Habib et al.		

Examiner Signature		Date Considered	
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EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

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Application Number.:	<u>10/058,360</u>
Filing Date:	<u>January 28, 2002</u>
First Named Inventor:	<u>Brandt</u>
Art Unit:	<u>2173</u>
Examiner Name:	<u>Unknown</u>
Attorney Docket Number.:	<u>ROC919960172US2</u>

OTHER PRIOR ART - NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS

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¹ Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). ² See Kind Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at www.uspto.gov or MPEP 901.04. ³ Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). ⁴ For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. ⁵ Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST.16 if possible. ⁶ Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language translation is attached.